In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Currently amended).   In an information stream associated with deliverable published software from a software publisher to a customer <u>whose name is known to the software publisher</u>, an arrangement for ~~software protection~~ <u>protecting the deliverable published software against unauthorized copying and distribution, by associating the software with the customer as the authorized user thereof, the arrangement</u> comprising<u>:</u>

    <u>(a)</u> a personalization <u>for identifying the customer as the authorized user of the software,</u> said personalization <u>authenticated and</u> incorporated into the information stream by the software publisher prior to delivery of the published software to the customer and prior to receipt of the published software by the customer, and containing pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the customer<u>, including at least the name of the customer;</u>

    <u>(b) a personalization validation module operative, when executed by a computer, to validate said authenticated personalization, and to determine that said personalization, including said at least the name of the customer, was originated by the software publisher and has not been altered; and</u>

    <u>(c) a display module operative, when executed by a computer, to display a notification on a computer to a user of the deliverable published software, said notification including said at least the name of the customer, and to thereby inform said user that the customer identified therein is the authorized user of the deliverable published software; and such that said display of said notification does not require any input of said name of the customer after receipt of the published software by the customer.</u>

2 (Original).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the deliverable published software is intended to execute on a plurality of computers, and wherein said personalization is not fundamentally related to any specific computer of the plurality.

3 (Original).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the deliverable published software is intended to execute on a plurality of computers, each of the plurality of computers having a configuration, and wherein said personalization is not fundamentally related to any specific configuration.

4 (Original).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the deliverable published software is intended to execute on computers belonging to a class of computer, and wherein the deliverable published software executes in substantially identical functional form on substantially all computers of the class of computer.

5 (Previously presented).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein said personalization is not associated with, and does not activate, any usage restriction on the deliverable published software.

6 (Original).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein said personalization does not have a fixed address within the information stream.

7 (Original).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein said personalization does not have a fixed extent within the information stream.

8 (Currently amended).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein said personalization is authenticated according to a public key cryptosystem having a public key, and wherein said personalization validation module has access to said public key.

9 (Currently amended).   The arrangement as in claim 8 1, wherein said personalization is in an encrypted form within the information stream.

10 (Canceled).

11 (Original). The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the information stream contains at least one executable module, and wherein said personalization is contained within said at least one executable module.

12 (Canceled).

13 (Currently amended). The arrangement as in claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein said personalization validation module is further operative to validating an output file.

14 (Currently amended). The arrangement as in claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the information stream contains at least one executable module, and wherein said personalization validation module is further operative to validating said at least one executable module.

15 (Currently amended). The arrangement as in claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein said personalization validation module is further operative, upon not detecting a valid personalization, to initiate an action included in the group containing:

(a) program termination;

(b) operating the software in a demonstration mode; and

(c) operating the software in a restricted mode.

16 (Previously presented). The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the information stream contains at least one executable module having an authenticated personalization, and wherein said executable module executes in a secure computer environment operative to validating said authenticated personalization.

17 (Original). The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein at least part of the deliverable published software is written in the Java language.

18 (Original). The arrangement as in claim 17, wherein at least part of the deliverable published software is contained in a Java archive.

19 (Original). The arrangement as in claim 18, wherein said Java archive is signed with an archive signature.

20. (Original) The arrangement as in claim 16, wherein said secure computer environment is operative to executing Java software.

21 (Currently amended). The arrangement as in claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein said personalization is in an encrypted form within the information stream, and wherein said personalization validation module is further operative to decrypting said encrypted form.

22 (Original). The arrangement as in claim 21, wherein said encrypted form is according to a public key cryptosystem having a public key, and wherein said personalization validation module has access to said public key.

23 (Previously presented). The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein the information stream contains at least one executable module operative to writing an output file containing information derived from said personalization, and wherein said information derived from said personalization in said output file is operative to being separately validated.

24 (Currently amended). A method for protecting deliverable published software ordered by a customer against unauthorized copying and distribution, by associating the software with the customer as the authorized user thereof, the method comprising:

(a)   obtaining pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the

customer, including at least the name of the customer;

(b)   producing <u>and authenticating</u> a personal information module from said pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the customer; ~~and~~

(c)   <u>providing a validation module operative, when executed by a computer, to validate said personal information module, and to determine that said personal information module, including at least said name of the customer, has not been altered;</u>

(d)   <u>providing a display module operative, when executed by a computer, to display a notification to a user of the deliverable published software, said notification including at least said name of the customer, and to thereby inform said user that the customer identified therein is the authorized user of the deliverable published software; and</u>

(~~e~~ <u>e</u>)   producing an executable module <u>for execution by a computer, said executable module</u> deriving at least in part from said personal information module<u>, said validation module, and said display module,</u> and incorporating at least part of said pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the customer<u>, including said name of the customer;</u>

wherein at least one of said producing a personal information module and said producing an executable module is performed prior to delivery of the published software to the customer and prior to receipt of the published software by the customer.

25 (Canceled).

26 (Currently amended).   The method as in claim 24, further comprising:

(~~d~~ <u>f</u>)   incorporating said executable module within a Java archive; and

(~~e~~ g)   authenticating said Java archive with an archive signature.

27 (Canceled).

28 (Currently amended). A system for protecting published software ordered by a customer against unauthorized copying and distribution, by associating the software with the customer as the authorized user thereof, the system comprising:

(a)   a personal information collector for collecting pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the customer, including at least the name of the customer, wherein said personal information collector collects personal information remotely from the customer via a communications channel;

(b)   a personalization compiler, for producing, from said pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the customer, a personalization module, and for authenticating said personalization module; and

(c)   an executable module builder, for producing deliverable published software containing said pre-existing personal information fundamentally related to the customer and derived at least in part from said personalization module, including at least said name of the customer;

such that said deliverable published software is operative, when executed by a computer, to validate at least said pre-existing personal information and to determine that said pre-existing personal information, including at least said name of the customer, has not been altered;

and such that said deliverable published software is operative, when executed by a computer, to display a notification on a computer to a user of the deliverable published software, said notification including at least said name of the customer, and to thereby inform said user that the customer identified therein is the authorized user of the deliverable published software.

29 (Previously presented). The system as in claim 28, wherein said communications channel is a network.

30 (Previously presented).   The system as in claim 29, wherein said network is the Internet.

31 (Currently amended).   The arrangement as in claim 1, wherein at least part of said personalization is operative to being displayed on a computer without requiring any input of said at least part of said personalization after receipt of the published software by the customer.

32 (Currently amended).   The arrangement as in claim ~~31~~ 1, wherein said ~~being displayed on a computer comprises being~~ notification is displayed on a computer in a display location selected from the group consisting of: title bar, window banner, splash window, help window, about window, main window, installation window, notification window, file listing window, and interactive window.

33 (Currently amended).   The arrangement as in claim 31, wherein the information stream contains at least one executable module operative to displaying said at least part of said personalization, including at least said name of the customer.